

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/675,529

Examiner

Eric B. Kiss

Applicant(s)

FRYE ET AL.

Art Unit

2122

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the reply filed 14 July 2004.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 2-8 and 10-14, renumbered as 1-12.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 01 April 2002 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

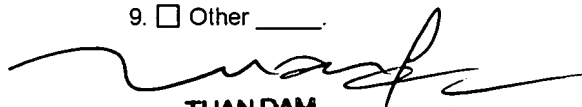
* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____


TUAN DAM
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER

DETAILED ACTION

1. The reply filed 14 July 2004 has been received and entered. Claims 2-8 and 10-14 are pending.

Response to Arguments

2. On p. 5, in paragraph 2 of Applicant's arguments submitted 14 July 2004, Applicant has stated:

As the Examiner is no doubt aware, a set-up routine displays user-readable configuration data on the display so that a user can select a device to be configured.

The Examiner, prior to reading this argument, did not know that he had such awareness.

The remaining arguments in lines 1-4 of the same paragraph, however, have been fully considered and are persuasive. The rejection of claims 2-7 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) has been withdrawn in view of Applicant's amendments as discussed below.

Allowable Subject Matter

3. Claims 2-8 and 10-14 are allowed.
4. The following is an Examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

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The prior art of record fails to expressly teach or fairly suggest the use of configuration character data (a type of user-readable configuration information, as argued by Applicant on p. 5, in paragraph 2, of the arguments submitted 14 July 2004) as the means of storing and retrieving configuration information in the extension configuration table in the context of the remaining limitations set forth in independent claim 2. Therefore, claims 2-7 are allowed.

The prior art of record fails to expressly teach or fairly suggest determining the existence of, and clearing, one or more duplicate entries from the non-volatile RAM memory, in the context of the remaining limitations set forth in independent claim 8. Therefore, claims 8 and 10-12 are allowed.

The prior art of record fails to expressly teach or fairly suggest comparing entries between the ROM and extension table in the NVRAM, and if a matching pair of entries is found, deleting the corresponding NVRAM entry, in the context of the remaining limitations set forth in independent claim 13. Therefore, claims 13 and 14 are allowed.

5. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."


Conclusion

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the Examiner should be directed to Eric B. Kiss whose telephone number is (703) 305-7737. One or around October 28, 2004, Technology Center 2100 will be relocated to Alexandria, Virginia, and Examiner Kiss's telephone number will change to (571) 272-3699. The Examiner can normally be reached on Tue. - Fri., 7:15 am - 4:45 pm. The Examiner can also be reached on alternate Mondays.

If attempts to reach the Examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the Examiner's supervisor, Tuan Dam, can be reached on (703) 305-4552. On or around October 28, 2004, Technology Center 2100 will be relocated to Alexandria, Virginia, and Tuan Dam's phone number will change to (571) 272-3695. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

EBK/EBK
September 16, 2004


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